

R 090933Z SEP 09  
FM AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC ROUTINE  
INFO SECDEF WASHINGTON DC ROUTINE  
CDR USAFRICOM STUTTGART GE ROUTINE  
CDR USSOCOM MACDILL AFB FL ROUTINE  
COMUSNAVEUR NAPLES IT ROUTINE  
CAMP LEMONIER DJIBOUTI ROUTINE  
CJTF HOA ROUTINE

UNCLASSIFIED DJIBOUTI 001095

SENSITIVE  
SIPDIS

STATE FOR AF, AF/E, L, AND PM/SNA  
OSD FOR OUSD(P)/ISA/AFRICAN AFFAIRS: S.BRACERO

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: MOPS MARR PREL DJ

SUBJECT: DJIBOUTI - CAMP LEMONIER LEASE RENEWAL - DEMARCHE DELIVERED

REF: A. 09 STATE 87986

1B. 09 DJIBOUTI 761

CORRECTED COPY: CORRECTED REFTEL

11. (SBU) On August 31, Embassy Djibouti informed the Government of Djibouti, via diplomatic note, of the USG's intent to exercise its option to renew the May 11, 2006, bilateral "Implementing Arrangement" subject to the availability of funds, for a period of five years, without renegotiation of terms or compensation, from October 1, 2010 through September 30, 2015 (ref A).

12. (U) On September 3, DCM reiterated reftel points and presented proposed GODJ response (ref A) to MFA Director of Bilateral Relations, Mohamed Ali Hassan. Hassan acknowledged receipt of the diplomatic note and highlighted the close strategic partnership between the U.S. and Djibouti. (NOTE. An active proponent of strong U.S.-Djiboutian ties, MFA Director Hassan chairs quarterly bilateral meetings between GODJ interagency officials and Camp Lemonier/Embassy Djibouti representatives; the next such meeting is scheduled for early October. END NOTE.)

13. (SBU) COMMENT. Post anticipates a favorable response from the GODJ. Senior GODJ principals -- including the Prime Minister, Foreign Minister, Chief of Defense, and National Security Advisor -- have repeatedly hailed the U.S. military presence in Djibouti, and have welcomed the continued deployment of U.S. forces. Earlier this year, on June 15, Foreign Minister Mohamoud Ali Youssouf provided verbal concurrence to DASD for Africa Huddleston, in response to U.S. officials raising the issue of the USG exercising its option to renew access to Camp Lemonier (ref B). Post will report any formal GODJ response as soon as it is received. END COMMENT.

SWAN